

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: *Deng, Ruitang, et al.* :  
APPLICATION NO.: Not Yet Known : Examiner: C. Drabik  
FILING DATE: Concurrently Herewith : Group Art Unit: 1635  
TITLE: COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS FOR :  
PROTECTING ANIMALS FROM  
LENTIVIRUS-ASSOCIATED DISEASE SUCH  
AS FELINE IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS

Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

The present application is a divisional of copending application Serial No. 09/378,810, and pursues the invention of restriction Group VI, directed to Claims 36-48, 50-61, 65, 66, 70 and 71, as set forth in paper no. 6 of the prior application. Prior to examination, please amend the specification of the subject application as follows:

**In the Specification:**

Before the first line of text, please insert the text:

--This application is a division of Serial No. 09/378,810, filed August 23, 1999, which claimed the benefit of Serial No. 60/097,645, filed August 24, 1998.—

**In the Claims:**

Please cancel claims 1-35, 49, 62-64, and 67-69 without prejudice to applicants' rights therein.

Please amend claims 66 and 70 as follows:

66. (AMENDED) The method of claim 65, further comprising purifying the antibody from the animal.

70. (AMENDED) A method of inducing an immune response in a mammal,